



Sierra Club Bulletin

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PROGRESS OF CONSTRUCTION OF THE CLAIR TAPPAAN LODGE

Chairman Bestor Robinson, of the Winter Sports Committee, reports the following progress in the construction of the Clair Tappaan Lodge at Norden, two miles west of Donner Pass:

Work commenced the week-end of April 21-22, 1934, when a boundary line and contour survey was made and some trees were felled. For a number of weeks thereafter the work consisted of grading a road to the site, including the building of a small bridge, and the laying of culvert. Then a seven-foot basement was dug and a road cut into it in order to facilitate transportation of the wood supply. For the masonry wall foundation excellent coarse sand was found locally and rock was secured in the same manner, all without cost. A water system was completely installed, consisting of a pipe-line buried three feet underground, which extends from a well 125 feet to a 320-gallon tank buried below foot-line. The pump and standard are also installed.

After completion of a foundation, construction moved rapidly. Beams, posts, and two large central trusses were shaped and fitted. Framing has been completed, the rafts hung, and the building is now shingled and enclosed. The large fireplace has been completed, except for the copper hood and metal chimney. Shingling, interior finishing, plumbing, and kitchen fixtures will come later when more funds are available.

The work has been voluntary. Every week-end this summer a band of eager workers have been on the job; pick-and-shovel men, swamper, cutters, hewers, sawyers, stone-masons, plumbers, carpenters, signers, and cooks. Some have spent their entire vacations working on the lodge. These members have made an invaluable contribution of their time and effort, while others have rendered assistance in other ways, including the raising and giving of funds.

Much still remains to be done to complete the Clair Tappaan Lodge in accordance with Sierra Club standards. The most urgent need is, of course, money for the purchase of materials. It is hoped that there will be such a satisfactory response to the letter which is being sent out by the president of the Club as to insure completion before the skiing season begins.

ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPH EXHIBIT

The annual photograph exhibit will be held as follows:

September 24th to October 4th at the Club headquarters, 1050 Mills Tower, 220 Bush Street, San Francisco. (In addition to the regular hours the Club rooms will be open from 2 to 6 o'clock on Saturday afternoon, September 29th.)

October 6th to 12th at the headquarters of the Southern California Chapter, 445 Wilcox Building, 206 South Spring Street, Los Angeles.

October 15th to 20th, under the auspices of the Riverside Chapter, at 7373 Magnolia Avenue, Riverside.

It is hoped that all who took photographs on the 1934 Sierra Club Outing will exhibit their albums, for in each collection there are sure to be pictures of special interest not to be found elsewhere. Members of the Club who took photographs this summer on other trips in the Sierra or in other mountain regions are also invited to send in their albums.

It has long been the custom for exhibitors to permit members of the Club to obtain copies of their pictures at a slight margin above cost. For this purpose it is requested that each photograph be numbered and that the price be stated. Orders will be placed through the Club office and will be forwarded after the close of the exhibit.

JURIED SHOW OF PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN IN REGION OF 1934 SIERRA CLUB OUTING

Members of the Club who have at any time taken photographs in the region of the 1934 Sierra Club Outing are invited to submit prints for the juried show to be held during October. Photographs for exhibit should be approximately 6x8 inches, *unmounted*, glossy black and white, and should be received at the Club Rooms by September 24th. Prints will receive careful handling and those chosen will be temporarily mounted on white bristol board and hung under glass. All prints will be returned to their owners.

PROGRAM OF EXHIBITS IN THE CLUB ROOMS

August 13 to September 8—Vischer Prints of Early California.

September 10 to 29—Mountains of Japan.

October 1 to November 3—Juried Show of Photographs taken in Region of 1934 Sierra Club Outing.

November 5 to December 1—Sketches by Leland Curtis.

1935 SIERRA CLUB OUTING—KINGS RIVER CANON

Many requests have been made that the Sierra Club take an outing into the Kings River Cañon (South Fork) before the state highway into the cañon has been completed. The Outing Committee has therefore decided to hold the regular 1935 outing in that very attractive region which the Club has not visited for some years. Traveling on the Generals Highway either via Giant Forest or via General Grant National Park, the party will join at Big Meadow where the first night's camp will be made. The next camp will be at the old campsite on Copper Creek, in Kings River Cañon, associated with so many enjoyable memories. Remaining there for three or four days, the party will then proceed to Granite Basin on the Monarch Divide between the South and Middle forks of the Kings River, and will then follow along just below Cirque Crest through Dougherty Meadow to Marion Lake and vicinity where another camp will be established to enable members of the party to climb the high peaks in the vicinity. Crossing Cartridge Creek Pass and the South Fork of Kings River, the party will next camp in the vicinity of Bench Lake just under Arrow Peak. Crossing Pinchot Pass, the next camp will be at Rae Lake. The trail over Glen Pass will then take the party to Vidette Meadow. From Vidette Meadow the return will be made by way of the Sphinx Trail, Moraine, Scaffold, and Sugarloaf meadows, back to Big Meadow. This will enable members of the party to leave their automobiles at Big Meadow while they are on the outing. A considerable portion of this route has never been covered in any of the Club outings. It will enable members of the party to visit a wild and unfrequented region of the Sierra with splendid opportunities for climbing some of the finer peaks and with delightful camping and trout fishing practically all the way. The outing will also be arranged so that members can join the party for either the first or last two weeks. The Committee will appreciate it if those desiring to take this trip will notify the Secretary so that their names may be placed on the tentative list.

OUTING COMMITTEE.

REPORT ON THE SIERRA CLUB OUTING OF 1934

Yosemite National Park revisited—with several highly interesting departures from the conventional routing—would be a descriptive summation of the Outing. The party moved first from Tuolumne Meadows to Babcock Lake via Tuolumne Pass and Fletcher Creek; thence to camp in the Lyell Fork of the Merced via the Isberg Trail, where a three-day camp was established. Numerous ascents of Mounts Lyell, Maclure, Electra, Foerster, and other peaks were made from this camp, as well as

trail excursions southward towards Isberg Pass. This region of the Sierra is especially attractive and has not been visited by the outing party as a whole before.

The party then moved from the Lyell Fork camp to camp at the base of Vogelsang Pass; thence over Vogelsang Pass to Tuolumne Meadows; thence westward to camp near the Cathedral Creek-Murphy Creek divide on Magee Lake Trail. The new trail to Ten Lakes over the shoulder of Tuolumne Peak was followed to camp on East Lake at 9500 feet elevation in Ten Lakes Basin. Three nights were spent here. Mount Hoffmann and other summits were climbed from this camp and the Muir Gorge knapsack party descended to the Tuolumne Cañon from this camp via Cathedral Creek. The return to Tuolumne Meadows marked the close of the first two weeks of the trip.

The second two weeks opened with the trip to Virginia Cañon, via Glen Aulin; thence to camp in upper Matterhorn Cañon, about two and one-half miles from Burro Pass. Three full days were passed in this camp. Many climbs were made of the Sawtooth Range, Whorl Mountain, Matterhorn Peak, Finger Peaks, etc., and trail trips were made to Snow Lake, Slide Cañon and other seldom visited points in the extreme northern section of the Park. The trip to Benson Lake was especially interesting in that most of the party made a cross-country trip via Big Meadow Creek and Piute Creek (crossing the divide above Matterhorn Cañon north of Doghead Peak).

Three full days were passed at Benson Lake with the usual score of climbing, swimming and resting achieved at this beautiful spot. The party then proceeded over Benson Pass via Smedberg Lake to the regular camp in Matterhorn Cañon; thence to Virginia Cañon; thence to Tuolumne Meadows where the Outing disbanded on August 4th.

As usual, great praise is merited by Francis Tappaan, Manager of the Outing, for the smoothness and efficiency of the outing operation in all its practical aspects was astonishing. Allie Robinson's pack-train lived up to its best tradition under difficult circumstances. The Mountaineering Committee (Lewis Clark, chairman, Glen Dawson, vice-chairman) did most valuable and efficient work in planning and regulating the mountain-climbing activities. It was clearly demonstrated that relatively large numbers of people can enjoy major mountain ascents with complete safety when reasonable rules and regulations are followed, and the ability of each member of the climbing party is appraised by the committee in control. Limitation of the size of the climbing parties and strict adherence to the rules of mountaineering remove the elements of danger that attend the loosely organized and careless climbing party. The unfortunate accident to Miss Florence Hendra at Benson Lake was related in no way to any official activity of the outing party: ample warning had been frequently given on the great care required at all times by every member of the party under all conditions, and this particular accident revealed the necessity of "eternal vigilance," both in wilderness and metropolitan environments.

The Outing was most successful. As ever, new experiences were enjoyed and old experiences gratefully repeated. The Annual Outing represents the spirit of the Sierra Club extended into tangible realities; nothing should be done to lessen the quality or reduce the effectiveness and mood of this admirable institution.

ANSEL ADAMS.

MOUNTAIN CLIMBING IN THE SUMMER OF 1934

In addition to the usual active interest in climbing displayed on the Club's Outing there were a number of fine climbs made by Club members in other parts of the Sierra. Hervey Voge and David Brower, accompanied part of the time by Norman Clyde, ascended over sixty peaks, including first ascents of all formerly unclimbed points of the Devils Crag. Glen Dawson and Ted Waller made the second ascent of the East Face of Mount Whitney, and Marjory Bridge and Jules Eichorn made the third ascent. Eichorn and Waller also made a new ascent in the Minarets. On August 25th the lower Cathedral Spire, in Yosemite, was conquered by Bestor Robinson, Dick Leonard, and Jules Eichorn; and on the same day Beverly Blanks, Boynton Kaiser, and Elliot Sawyer made the second ascent of the higher Cathedral Spire. Doubtless there have been other notable climbs which have not come to the attention of the Club office. It will assist the Mountain Records Committee if those making unusual climbs will report them to the Secretary of the Sierra Club.

FLORENCE HENDRA

Florence Hendra, whose accidental death occurred at Benson Lake during the Sierra Club outing, had only recently joined the Club and was enjoying her first camping trip in the High Sierra. She was a native of Canada and had lived in San Francisco for about two years. She had no relatives in

California. Inquiries which came to the Club following the news of the accident indicated the esteem in which she was held by her friends and associates. The accident which caused Miss Hendra's death was an entirely unforeseeable misfortune. She was not in a situation that could be called hazardous. Apparently she stumbled, rolled twenty-five or thirty feet, hitting her head on the rocks, disappeared into the water unconscious, and was drowned. Her companion, who was some distance behind at the moment, made a valiant effort to rescue her, but the time consumed in reaching the spot and especially in making the difficult descent of the rocks prevented her reaching Miss Hendra in time.

SYDNEY SCHLESINGER

On July 3, 1934, Sydney Schlesinger met with a fatal accident while climbing Mount Shasta. He had gone on independently in advance of a party of climbers and had apparently reached the top of the ridge known as the Red Banks a little before 6 A. M. No one witnessed the accident but it is supposed that he stumbled and fell from the Red Banks onto the steep snowfield. At that time of day the snow was hard and he slid about two thousand feet, probably colliding with some rocks on the way. By the time the body reached the main party it was moving slowly enough to be stopped, but nothing could be done and death occurred almost immediately thereafter.

Sydney Schlesinger was born in San Francisco in 1885 and was a lawyer by profession. He was very much interested in music and dramatics as well as traveling in mountain regions. He took part in the Sierra Club outings on a number of occasions and was a very devoted member of the Club.

THE 1935 MAGAZINE NUMBER OF THE SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

Contributions for the next magazine number, planned for February, 1935, should be in the hands of the Editor not later than *November 15th*. Lists of mountain ascents and other notes on climbing are especially requested.

SIERRA CLUB ANNUAL DINNER, DECEMBER 8, 1934

The annual reunion dinner and dance will be held at the Fairmont Hotel, California and Market Streets, San Francisco, on Saturday evening, December 8th, at 6:30 o'clock. Further announcements will be made in the *October Bulletin*.



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